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2003-04 ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

In order to receive benefits under this program:

1. The applicant must be on active duty status and have served for at least one year in the Illinois National Guard. Enlisted persons currently serving and Company grade officers are eligible. Time served in other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces does not count toward this requirement.
2. The applicant must not be in default on any educational loan or owe a refund on a federal or state grant and must maintain an acceptable grade point average (GPA) according to the policy determined by the college of record.
3. The applicant must be registered with the federal Selective Service or otherwise be exempt from federal Selective Service registration requirements.

BENEFITS:

1. A grant recipient is entitled to receive payment of tuition and eligible fees for a period equivalent to 8 semesters or 12 quarters of full-time enrollment at an Illinois public university or public community college. Credit and noncredit hours are converted to eligibility units with a maximum usage of 96 units.
2. This grant can be used for both undergraduate or graduate enrollment. There is no minimum enrollment requirement, and benefits are applicable to noncredit courses.
3. If an applicant is eligible for both the Illinois National Guard Grant and Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant, the Illinois National Guard Grant benefits must be used first.
4. An approved applicant is eligible only for payment of tuition, registration, graduation, and general activity fees. These fees must be identified on billings and school publications in order to be covered by the grant.
5. If the grant recipient ceases to be a member of the Illinois National Guard during the term, benefits cease and the recipient is responsible for the unpaid costs incurred for the remainder of the term. The recipient may also be required to repay any or all benefits received to the Department of Military Affairs.

ANNUAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

1. The applicant must apply to ISAC for these educational benefits and must supply all requested information. ***In order to receive benefits, one application must be filed for each academic year, which begins with the fall term and concludes the following summer term.*** No payments will be made on behalf of any eligible student unless a current application is on file. See deadline dates on page 1 of application.
2. Applications received by ISAC after the deadline dates will be processed only for subsequent terms, with June 15, 2004 as the final date of acceptance for the Summer term of the 2003-04 academic year.
3. After the application is processed and one year of duty is verified by the Illinois Department of Military Affairs, an eligibility letter is sent to the applicant. If required by the school, the applicant should present his/her eligibility letter to the college financial aid office at the time of enrollment. The college also has deadlines for requesting payment on a student's behalf, and failure to present the eligibility letter, as required, may result in the loss of benefits.
4. Payments are made to only one institution per term. If the applicant enrolls at a second institution for the same term, he/she must arrange for payment through the college of record. However, the college of record is not required to bill ISAC for charges incurred at another institution.
5. The applicant must notify ISAC, in writing, of name, address, or college choice changes as they occur. All college changes must be received by ISAC before the deadline dates to be effective for the appropriate term(s).
6. **Allow four weeks for the processing of your application. If no response has been received after four weeks, contact ISAC at 800-899-ISAC (4722), extension 0. Mail completed application to:**

**D-3A, Illinois National Guard Grant Processing
Illinois Student Assistance Commission
1755 Lake Cook Road
Deerfield, IL 60015-5209**